



Rockville Reports

FEBRUARY 2016 • VOL. 62 #2

• A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF ROCKVILLE •



The Mayor and Council – (left to right) councilmembers Virginia D. Onley and Julie Palakovich Carr, Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton, councilmembers Beryl L. Feinberg and Mark Pierzchala – identified 25 priorities, framed within “critical success factors” for the current term, which ends in 2019.

Mayor and Council Begin Work on Shared Vision for the City

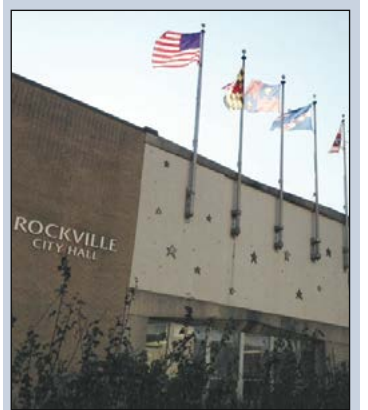
The Mayor and Council identified 25 priorities for the city during a retreat on Saturday, Jan. 9 as they began to outline their initiatives for the new term.

They will refine their priorities during a follow-up session at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 9, in the conservatory of Glenview Mansion at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive. A consultant will continue to work with the Mayor and Council to better define the challenges to be addressed and to agree on what success for each will look like.

The 25 priorities are framed within “critical success factors” that describe how Rockville will look when the Mayor and

Council achieve their shared vision for the community. The Mayor and Council reaffirmed the eight critical success factors that were first identified in January 2014, with some revisions. The critical success factors are: efficient and effective city service delivery; good governance; safe and livable neighborhoods; fiscal responsibility; planning and preservation; informed and engaged residents; economic development; and stewardship of infrastructure and environment.

Full descriptions of these factors can be found at www.rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/10403. ✦



City Hall and Some City Facilities to Close for Presidents Day

Recycling and Refuse to be Collected on Regular Schedule

Rockville City Hall will be closed in observance of Presidents Day on Monday, Feb. 15.

Recycling and refuse collection will occur as usual. For more information, call 240-314-8568 or visit www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-refuse.

On Monday, Feb. 15:

- Croydon Creek Nature Center, Glenview Mansion and the Rockville Senior Center will be closed.
- The F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre box office will be closed. Tickets are always available at www.rockvillemd.gov/theatretix.
- Lincoln Park, Twinbrook and Thomas Farm community centers and the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center will be open regular hours. Parking fees at city-owned meters will be suspended.

For more information, call 240-314-5000 or visit www.rockvillemd.gov. ✦

Mayor and Council Continue FY 2017 Budget Work

The Mayor and Council will continue discussing their vision for Rockville’s fiscal year 2017 budget with a work session on Monday, Feb. 8.

The work session will focus on changes that could be included in the city manager’s proposed budget for FY 2017, which begins July 1, and will include an update on property tax and income tax revenue.

City staff provided the Mayor and Council with a revenue update and fund overview during a budget kickoff work session on Monday, Jan. 11. The Mayor and Council identified several priorities to consider including in the budget. The general fund budget for the current fiscal year totals \$78.1 million, and makes up over 60 percent of the city’s total operating budget. About \$38.3 million of the general fund is comprised of revenue from property taxes.

The budget schedule is as follows:

- **Monday, March 14:** Presentation of the city manager’s proposed budget, and a work session.

- **Monday, March 21:** Public hearing.
- **Monday, April 4:** Public hearing and work session.
- **Monday, April 18:** Public hearing. The public record closes on Monday, April 25.
- **Monday, May 2:** Final work session.
- **Monday, May 16 or Monday, May 23:** Budget adoption.

For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/budget or call the Finance Department at 240-314-8400. To view the first budget preview, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter and select the television icon next to the Jan. 11 meeting listing.

Work sessions and public hearings are televised as part of Mayor and Council meetings at 7 p.m. on Mondays, are broadcast live on channel 11 on county cable systems and are available at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11 via live streaming and, the day after the meeting, on demand. ✦



Celebrate Lunar New Year on Feb. 13

Rockville’s Celebration Features Performances, Exhibits and Food at F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre

Celebrate Rockville’s Asian cultures as the city’s Lunar New Year celebration returns to the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 13.

The free celebration, at the theater at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive, will highlight Rockville’s diverse community through multigenerational performances from 10 a.m.-noon, exhibits featuring traditional arts and crafts, and samples of Asian cuisine. For a complete list of performers, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/lunarnewyear.

Organized by Rockville’s Asian Pacific American

Task Force, and sponsored by Greencourt Capital and Kaplan University, the celebration marks the beginning of the year 4714, the “Year of the Monkey,” on the Chinese Zodiac calendar. One in three Rockville residents was born outside the United States and 54 percent of the city’s foreign-born population was born in Asia, according to the city’s planning department.

For more information, call Janet Kelly at 240-314-8316 or jkelly@rockvillemd.gov. ✦

IF YOU GO:

WHAT: Lunar New Year Celebration
WHEN: Saturday, Feb. 13, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
WHERE: F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Drive

Get Into It...

PAGE

2 **BRT on the Move**
Feb. 8 work session to examine bus rapid transit in Town Center.

PAGE

4 **Shovelers Wanted**
Learn how to help a senior when it snows.

PAGE

5 **Tax-Free Weekend**
Save energy and money Feb. 13-15.

PAGE

6 **Making History**
Rockville 11 to feature the city’s role on the Underground Railroad.

MAYOR & COUNCIL
111 Maryland Ave.
Rockville, Maryland
20850-2364

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ROCKVILLE, MD.
PERMIT NO. 63

ECR WSS
LOCAL
POSTAL CUSTOMER

IN BRIEF



City Parks, Facilities to Go Smoke-Free March 1

Rockville's Mayor and Council unanimously voted in October to expand the city's smoke-free area rules to include all city facilities and city parks.

Signs are being posted this winter, and the new rules will take effect on Tuesday, March 1.

Areas such as the plaza in Rockville Town Square (a city-owned park) are among those going smoke-free. Privately owned outdoor restaurant dining areas adjacent to Town Square and throughout Rockville will not be affected.

Enforcement of the smoke-free area rules will be complaint-driven. Complaints may be directed to Montgomery County's Department of Health and Human Services, the agency tasked with monitoring the county's smoke-free area rules.

The Mayor and Council's action followed a unanimous recommendation by the Recreation and Park Advisory Board that all city parks and facilities be smoke-free.

For more on the change, including a list of city parks and facilities that will be smoke-free, view the Oct. 19 Mayor and Council agenda at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter.

REDI Highlights Rockville's Economic Growth in Annual Report

Rockville's economy remained strong in 2015, despite regional challenges with the consolidation of the federal government's footprint and universal changes to the modern use of office space, according to an annual report from Rockville Economic Development, Inc. (REDI).

Rockville boasted an unemployment rate under 4 percent in 2015, a year that also saw Sucampo Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and VariQ Corporation relocate their headquarters to Rockville and the Cambria Hotel & Suites open in Town Center.

The annual report includes details on REDI's 2015 events and marketing efforts and business community news highlights from the year. Find it at www.rockvilleredi.org/annualreport.

Neighborhood News

Sign Up to Participate in 'Rockville 2040' Citywide Meetings This Spring

Master Plan Listening Session Results Now Online

The city continues to seek input from community members as work on 'Rockville 2040,' the process to update the city's Comprehensive Master Plan, continues.

A series of four citywide meetings to develop goals and objectives for the new plan will be held in April, May and June. The plan seeks to preserve and improve the quality of life in Rockville by guiding development and conservation



and ensuring the city's ability to provide high quality community facilities.

If you would like to participate in the meetings, email masterplan@rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8200. Participants are encouraged to attend all four meetings. Each will

build on the prior meeting.

The city wrapped up a series of 'Rockville 2040' listening sessions in January, where community members shared what they would like to see in the city's future. The results of the sessions are expected to be presented to the Planning Commission

on Wednesday, Feb. 24. You can read the results at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville2040.

Listening session results and trends reports presented by planning staff will be used as briefing and background information for the spring meetings.

For more information, to submit comments or to sign up to receive email updates about the process, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville2040. ✦



Mayor and Council to Discuss Town Center Parking

Work Session to Include Merchants, Property Owners, Residents and Visitors

The Mayor and Council invite all Rockville Town Center stakeholders, including merchants, property owners, residents and visitors, to a work session to discuss Town Center parking.

The work session, at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 25, in the Mayor and Council Chambers at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., will be a dialogue with the Mayor and Council. Stakeholders can share information, perspectives and experiences using parking and managing parking.

For more information or to sign up to speak, contact Louise Atkins at latkins@rockvillemd.gov or

www.rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8106.

There are a variety of parking options and locations in Town Center, including garages, lots and metered spaces. Hours of operation and rates vary but all provide convenient access to the businesses in the area. Find more information about parking in Town Center at www.rockvilleparking.com, including a parking map, answers to frequently asked questions, and information about Town Center businesses and ongoing development. Discounts offered by parking operators and merchants are also described. ✦

City Planning for Public Outreach on Bus Rapid Transit

The public will hear more about a bus rapid transit study in the coming months as city planners continue working on a county and state effort to improve traffic mobility in the area.

The county bus rapid transit (BRT) project includes rapid transit routes planned along Veirs Mill Road and Rockville Pike, which flow through Rockville Town Center. Rockville's BRT study, which was presented to the Mayor and Council in September, provides concepts and options for BRT integration in town center.

The Mayor and Council will hold a work session with the study's consultants at 7 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 8, to discuss the study in more detail. An update on the study will also be provided to the city's Traffic and Transportation Commission and Planning Commission.

At the Mayor and Council's direction, city planners are in the process of scheduling meetings with neighborhood groups, business associations, commercial/office building owners and other stakeholders where the public can hear more about the city's BRT study and town center, and get a chance to share their thoughts. If you would like to schedule a presentation

on bus rapid transit with your group or association, please contact Andy Gunning at agunning@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8206.

A community-wide forum on rapid transit routes in Rockville is being planned for later in the spring.

As meeting dates are finalized, they will be posted at www.rockvillemd.gov/brt, where you can also learn more about the bus rapid transit study and regional efforts. ✦

Be in the Know When it Snows!



ALERT Rockville

rockvillemd.gov/alerts



The Alert Rockville notification system relays up-to-the-minute messages to subscribers about snow emergencies, facility closures, public safety, severe weather and traffic.

Signing up is EASY!

1. Create a username and password.
2. Choose the types of alerts you want to receive.
3. Choose and prioritize your preferred method(s) of delivery – text, phone, email.
4. Enter your information - mobile phone number, home phone number, email.
5. Enter up to five locations.

To sign up, visit: www.rockvillemd.gov/alerts



Public Safety • Severe Weather • Traffic



THE CITY'S MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY CELEBRATION RECOGNIZED THOSE WHO ARE CARRYING ON KING'S LEGACY... Julian Avenilla (far left), the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Youth Award recipient, was honored for his dedication to women's rights. Lisa Handelman (second from right), the F. Michael Taff Award recipient, was honored for her work to improve accessibility for individuals with disabilities as the disability inclusion specialist at the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington. Pictured with Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton (second from left) and Human Rights Commission Acting Chair Ken Sandin (far right) on Jan. 18.

Mayor & Council



Mayor
Bridget Donnell Newton



Councilmember
Beryl L. Feinberg



Councilmember
Virginia D. Onley



Councilmember
Julie Palakovich Carr



Councilmember
Mark Pierzchala

MFD Business Program Continues Outreach

City Connects with Minority-, Female- and Disabled-Owned Business Community

Rockville is taking steps to connect with the minority-, female- and disabled-owned (MFD) business community, under a program created last year at the request of the Mayor and Council.

With the hiring in October of a new purchasing manager and a second

in order to establish partnerships with these key organizations and identify the most effective outreach methods and events.

Staff attended two outreach events: The Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland, Inc.'s Annual Legislative Black Caucus Weekend in November and

the African American Chamber of Commerce of Montgomery County's 15th Annual Minority

Legislative Breakfast in December. Staff will attend similar events through the Baltimore-Washington metropolitan region in the months ahead.

Other plans include exploring additional partnerships; conducting additional outreach to the Rockville Chamber of Commerce, Rockville Economic Development, Inc. and MWBC members; gathering information for the city's database of MFD vendors doing business with the city; and reviewing city policies and procedures to identify provisions that may adversely impact MFD businesses. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/mfd. ✦

MFD BUSINESS OUTREACH PROGRAM NEXT STEPS:

- Explore more partnerships.
- Review policies and procedures.

Purchasing, Economic Development and ADA on Mayor and Council Agendas

Legislative Priorities and Floodplain Ordinance Also On Deck

A study of the city's Purchasing Division and potential economic development incentives are among several highlights of Mayor and Council agendas for February.

Monday, Feb. 1:

- A presentation of City Manager Barbara B. Matthews' purchasing action plan. The Mayor and Council commissioned a study of the city's overall purchasing operation. The city manager's action plan shows how and when the study recommendations will be implemented.
- A discussion of the city's legislation and policy priorities for Montgomery County government.

Monday, Feb. 8:

- A work session with consultants on the Town Center/Bus Rapid Transit study. *Learn more in the article on page 2.*
- A vote on a proposal to annex the 4-acre former CarMax site, at 15931 Frederick Road, into the city's corporate limits.

Monday, Feb. 22:

- A public hearing on a proposal to add the city's recycling and refuse charge to Montgomery County tax bills.
- A presentation of the city's Americans with Disabilities Act audit and transition plan, by Recreation

Accessibility Consultants, LLC. The study audits current conditions in parks and facilities and provides a plan to improve accessibility for all. The public is invited to a presentation to preview the plan, discuss the process and gather feedback at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 10 in the Black-Eyed Susan Room at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave. For more information and to RSVP, contact Chris Henry at 240-314-8603 or chenry@rockvillemd.gov.

- A presentation on economic development principles and related incentives and a quarterly update by Rockville Economic Development Inc. (REDI).
- Introduction of changes to bring the city's floodplain ordinance in compliance with Federal Emergency Management Agency and state standards for floodplain protection and oversight.

Agendas are subject to change and are posted several days before meetings at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter. Meetings are held at 7 p.m. on most Mondays in the Mayor and Council Chambers at City Hall and are broadcast live on cable channel 11 and live streaming at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11. ✦

Connect With Your Mayor and Council

- **Stay informed.** Mayor and Council meeting schedules and agendas can be found at www.rockvillemd.gov/mayor_council. Sign up at www.rockvillemd.gov/notifyme to receive an email or text message when a new agenda is posted online.
- **Follow the action.** Meetings are held at 7 p.m. on most Mondays in the Mayor and Council Chambers at City Hall,

111 Maryland Ave.; are broadcast live on cable channel 11; and are available at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11 via live streaming and, the day after the meeting, on demand.

- **Stop by a drop-in session.** Learn more in the "Important Mayor and Council Dates" box on this page, and at www.rockvillemd.gov/mayor_council.

- **Speak at Community Forum.** Community members are invited to speak for up to three minutes during the Community Forum portion of each Mayor and Council meeting. Priority is given to speakers who sign up by calling the City Clerk's Office at 240-314-8280 by 4 p.m. on the day of the meeting and to those who are speaking on an agenda item.
- **Send an email to mayor_council@rockvillemd.gov.**

- **Testify at a hearing or submit testimony in writing to cityclerk@rockvillemd.gov** or to the City Clerk's Office, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850.
- **Volunteer to serve on a board or commission.** Boards and commissions provide the Mayor and Council with ideas that shape the city. View vacancies at www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions. ✦



Important Mayor and Council Dates

Meetings are 7 p.m. at City Hall and subject to change.

- **Feb. 1** (Monday)
- **Feb. 8** (Monday)
- **Feb. 9** (Tuesday/work session/5 p.m. Glenview Mansion - See page 1.)
- **Feb. 22** (Monday)
- **Feb. 25** (Thursday/work session - See page 2.)
- **Feb. 29** (Monday)

Meetings are televised on Rockville 11 and available live streaming and on demand at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11. **Drop-in sessions** are held monthly at 5:30 p.m. in the Mayor and Council office. On **Feb. 8**, Councilmember Julie Palakovich Carr will join Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton. *No appointment necessary. Call the City Clerk's Office at 240-314-8280 to confirm.*

IN BRIEF

City Invites Community Members to Post-Election Forums on Feb. 4 and 6

Rockville's Board of Supervisors of Elections is already thinking about the city's next election – which will be in 2019 – and invites the public to share thoughts on the elections process during two post-election forums, from 7-9 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 4 and from 10 a.m.-noon on Saturday, Feb. 6, in the Mayor and Council Chambers at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave.

The Feb. 6 forum is the rescheduled date of the forum originally scheduled for Jan. 23, which was canceled due to snow.

Candidates in the 2015 election and their campaign treasurers, and elected officials from the state, county and other municipalities, are invited. Officials from state and county boards of election and from other municipalities are also invited.

The board invites all attendees to review Chapter 8 (Elections) of the City Code before the forums. It is available at www.rockvillemd.gov/citycode or by request by calling the City Clerk's Office at 240-314-8280.

For more information on the 2015 election, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/election.

Mayor Elected First Vice Chair of the Transportation Planning Board

Rockville Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton was recently elected First Vice Chair of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB).

The TPB prepares plans and programs that the federal government must approve in order for federal transportation funds to flow to the region. It includes local governments, state transportation agencies, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority and members of the Maryland and Virginia legislatures.

Learn more about the TPB at www.mwcog.org/transportation/tpb/.

City Will Pick a Student 'Mayor for a Day' This Spring

Mayor to Visit Rockville Fourth-Graders

Rockville fourth-graders are encouraged to participate in the Maryland Municipal League's "If I Were Mayor" essay contest. Winners will be recognized at an awards ceremony in Annapolis and at a Mayor and Council meeting. A student attending school in Rockville will be chosen to be the city's Mayor for a Day. Essays are due by March 31. Learn more by visiting www.mdmunicipal.org and selecting "Mayor's Essay Contest" under "Programs and Services," or call the City Clerk's Office at 240-314-8280.

Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton welcomes the opportunity to speak with students about the contest, municipal government and being mayor. Teachers or school administrators may email Sara Ferrell, at sferrell@rockvillemd.gov, to arrange a visit with the mayor at their school.

Rockville Seeks Volunteers to Shovel Snow for Seniors

City Pairs Volunteers with Nearby Neighbors

Each winter, the Rockville Senior Center coordinates an effort to help older Rockville residents with snow removal, and volunteers are needed again this season.

The senior center's home maintenance coordinator organizes the program and connects volunteers with neighbors in need near their own homes whenever possible.

To sign up to volunteer or to request snow shoveling assistance, call 240-314-8819 or call the Senior Center Support Services office at 240-314-8810.

For more information about the Rockville Senior Services, call 240-314-8800 or email seniorcenter@rockvillemd.gov.

It's Not Too Late to Support RCPD's Plunge for Special Olympics

A team from the Rockville City Police Department (RCPD) was set to take a dip in the chilly Chesapeake Bay on Friday, Jan. 29 at Sandy Point State Park, in Annapolis to support Special Olympics Maryland, as part of the 20th Annual Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge.

It's not too late to show support. Community members can still contribute to the RCPD plunge team by visiting <http://ow.ly/WqhrT>.

Talk It Out to Work It Out: Resolve Conflict Through Community Mediation

Rockville's Community Mediation program provides mediation service that is free, confidential and voluntary. Community mediation assists in resolving disputes between:

- Businesses and customers.
- Co-workers.
- Employers and employees.
- Landlords and tenants.
- Neighbors.

Large group facilitation is also provided around community disputes. Members of Rockville's Human Rights Commission and other city residents serve as mediators. Translation for Spanish and Chinese speakers is available. Learn more about the mediation process at www.rockvillemd.gov/mediation.

To discuss an issue that may be appropriate for mediation, contact Janet Kelly, community mediation administrator, at 240-314-8316 or jkelly@rockvillemd.gov.

Get to Know the City of Rockville with the Rockville Leadership Program

Thursdays, April 7, 21 and May 5 from 7-9 p.m.
Saturdays, April 16 and 23 from 9 a.m.-noon

Build leadership skills and learn from staff who oversee the city's daily operations.

- Explore Rockville's form of government.
- Participate in a mock Mayor and Council session.
- Examine the planning and development process.
- Hear from police, including discussions of code enforcement and neighborhood watch.
- Tour recreation facilities and the water treatment plant.

Space is limited. Participants must be 16 or older and live or work in Rockville. For more information, contact Hjarman Cordero at hcordero@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8344 or visit www.rockvillemd.gov/neighborhoods.

In The Community

Citizens Police Academy Shows What it Takes to Be an Officer

The 10-Week Course Examines Crime Scene Processing and Investigations

Residents have the opportunity to go behind the badge this spring at the Rockville Citizens Police Academy. Participants 18 and older will learn about all aspects of the police department, receive hands-on training and earn a graduation certificate upon course completion.

The Rockville City Police Department is accepting applications for the upcoming Citizens Police Academy. The free, 10-week course will be held at a time and place to be determined in

March, April and May.

Topics include:

- Crime scene processing.
- Firearms training simulations.
- K-9 unit demonstrations.
- Traffic law.
- Detectives and investigations.
- Bomb unit.

For more information and registration, email Cpl. Ken Matney at kmatney@rockvillemd.gov. For more information about the Rockville City Police Department, go to www.rockvillemd.gov/police.



Student Workshop to Focus on 'Building Bridges in a Diverse Society'

"Building Bridges in a Diverse Society," a dynamic, highly interactive diversity leadership workshop offered by the city's Human Rights Commission, returns this month.

The workshop, for students attending high school in Rockville or attending Montgomery College-Rockville, will be held from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 20 at the Pump House, 401 South Horners Lane.

The curriculum, based on the award-winning National Coalition Building Institute Prejudice Reduction Workshop and the teachings of other peace-building organizations, will provide students with tools to handle difficult situations with an understanding of diverse

populations. It is designed to help students recognize prejudice and create an environment of inclusion in their schools.

Student leaders of diverse backgrounds are especially encouraged to attend. Student Service Learning credits will be offered and verification of hours attended is available for college students. Registration is free. Lunch will be provided.

Register by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 10 by emailing Janet Kelly, the city's Human Rights Commission liaison, at jkelly@rockvillemd.gov. For more information, call 240-314-8316. For information about accessibility, call the city's Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator at 240-314-8108.



Mayor and Council Thank Community for Generously Supporting City's Holiday Drive

As a result of generous contributions from more than 140 individuals, businesses, schools, churches and community organizations, the 2015 Rockville Holiday Drive made the holidays special for hundreds of families in Rockville.

The Mayor and Council will recognize the drive's major donors and community partners at their meeting on Monday, Feb. 1.

Contributions from the community, and the hard work of many volunteers, enabled the city to:

- **Distribute** Thanksgiving food baskets and grocery store gift cards to more than 450 Rockville households.
- **Treat** 122 Rockville seniors to a Thanksgiving dinner.
- **Provide** 166 seniors and households without children with a gift card to a grocery store in December.
- **Operate** the city's annual Toy Shop, providing over 1,000 toys and books to nearly 500 children.
- **Provide** 205 teens with a gift card to a local retailer.
- **Match** 62 Rockville



families – a total of 274 individuals – with sponsors who provided gifts tailored to each family member's specific needs.

In total, more than 300 volunteers donated more than 680 hours during November and December. These volunteers sorted food and packed meals, wrapped gifts and chaperoned families during the Toy Shop, and delivered gifts and gift cards to homebound families.

Over 100 donors contributed \$22,701. In addition, 18 individuals and 42 companies, churches and schools generously donated food, toys, books and gift cards valued at \$45,895.

To learn more about the Holiday Drive, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/holidaydrive or call the Community Services Division at 240-314-8310. For volunteer opportunities throughout the year, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/volunteer.

Annual Coat Drive a Heart-warming Success

Rockville's annual Coat Drive was a big success, with 370 coats donated for those in need. The city teamed up with Burlington Coat Factory's Warm Coats & Warm Hearts Drive, which distributed the coats in our area. Thank you to the Rockville community for your support!



News You Can Use

Save with Energy-Saving Products and Energy Rebates Tax-Free Presidents Day Weekend Returns

Homeowners thinking about upgrading an appliance, replacing a water heater, or even changing a light bulb, can do so tax free on Presidents Day weekend.

On Feb. 13-15, purchases of the following energy-efficient Energy Star products are free from Maryland's 6 percent sales tax:

- Air conditioners.
- Clothes washers and dryers.
- Furnaces.
- Heat pumps.
- Boilers.
- Solar water heaters (tax exempt at all times).
- Standard-size refrigerators.
- Dehumidifiers.
- Programmable thermostats.
- Compact fluorescent and light-emitting diode (LED) light bulbs.

Learn more about Energy Star products at www.energy.gov.

Learn more about the tax-free weekend by visiting www.marylandtaxes.com and searching "Shop Maryland Energy."

In addition, Pepco offers customers rebates on Energy Star appliances. Learn more



at <http://homeenergysavings.pepco.com/appliance-rebate-program>.

Washington Gas also offers residential and commercial rebates, including, for residential customers, rebates on furnaces, tankless and standard water heaters, and programmable and Wi-Fi-enabled thermostats.

Learn more at <http://washingtongasliving.com/rebates>.

Washington Gas offers the following energy-saving tips:

- Caulk and weather strip windows and doors.
- Install plastic sheeting on the inside of windows to keep cold air out.
- Set thermostats comfortably

low in winter. Consider installing a programmable thermostat.

- Close dampers in fireplaces when they are not in use.
- Set the temperature on water heaters to "warm" or "low" and never higher than 120 degrees.
- Wash full loads of laundry in cold water using specially formulated cold-water detergent.
- Have your heating system thoroughly inspected annually by a licensed contractor.
- Energy assistance may be available for customers having trouble paying their gas bill. Call 703-750-1000. Customers can also spread the cost of winter heating across the year. Visit www.washgas.com/pages/PaymentArrangements or call 703-750-7944.
- Customers may purchase natural gas from any licensed energy supply company they choose.

For more information, visit www.washingtongas.com and select "Customer Information," then "Customer Choice." ❖

Online Training Available for Common Ownership Communities Boards

A new county law requires board members of common ownership communities to complete training that is being offered by Montgomery County through a recently launched online program.

The training, which is also available to community members, addresses ethics, roles and responsibilities of board members and homeowners, community governing documents, financial management, meeting rules, and general administration.

Common ownership communities have shared common property within a residential development. Their governing bodies, such as a homeowner association's board of directors, adopt and enforce rules and assess dues for the ownership, maintenance and operations of common property.

The new training is required by legislation, passed by the County Council last year, that seeks to promote more knowledgeable and responsible management of common ownership communities. Under the legislation, which took effect Jan. 1, members of boards of directors of common ownership communities in Montgomery County (except those within the City of Gaithersburg) are required to successfully complete the training within 90 day of being elected, re-elected or appointed. Common ownership communities are required, by the end of each year, to report to the county's Commission on Common Ownership Communities (CCOC) that the board members have completed the program.

The Mayor and Council voted July 20 to continue Rockville's participation in the CCOC, which provides technical assistance, information and advice to association boards and residents, including services to help resolve disputes between association residents and governing bodies.

Rockville has 57 common ownership communities.

For more information, call 240-777-3636 or visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OCPC/ococ/training.html. ❖

INFO. AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Submit Designs for the Rockville Storm Drain Mural Project

Artists with an interest in the environment have a unique opportunity to use their talents to help educate the public about storm drains and the impact our collective actions have on local waterways and the Chesapeake Bay.

In celebration of Earth Day, Friday, April 22, the City of Rockville and VisArts are sponsoring the Rockville Storm Drain Mural Project.



The mural designs will reflect how storm drains—and what goes into them—impact the health of local waterways. Themes could include water quality, streams, rivers, the Chesapeake Bay, native plants and wildlife, or pollution. The example above, "River Mandala," by Laura Lynch, adorns a storm drain in Springfield, Mo. and is provided courtesy of the Storm Drain Reveal, a partnership between the James River Basin Partnership and the City of Springfield (Mo.).

Submit mural ideas by Monday, March 14 to be considered to paint a Rockville storm drain. Find details and the application at www.rockvillemd.gov/stormdrainmural or call 240-314-8870.

Rockville Seeks Environmentalists to Be Recognized During Earth Month

Deadline for Nominations for Environmental Excellence Awards is March 1

The Mayor and Council's Environmental Excellence Awards recognize individuals and organizations that contribute to Rockville's environmental health and sustainability.

Nominations are being accepted in the following categories through Tuesday, March 1 for awards to be presented during Earth Month in April:

- Outstanding Individual Environmental Stewardship.
- Outstanding Leadership in Environmental Practices.
- Outstanding Achievement in Green Building Technology/Design.
- Outstanding Environmental Education and Academic Achievement.

Eligible individuals must live, work, or study within the city. Eligible organizations must have an office in Rockville or must be able to demonstrate significant operations within the city limits. Building projects considered as part of a nomination must be within the city.

The awards are presented to an individual or organization by the Mayor and Council. Nominations and supplemental materials are received by the Environment Commission, which will review the materials and recommend awards to the Mayor and Council.

For more information and application forms, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/environment/awards, email environment@rockvillemd.gov, or call 240-314-8870.

Community Garden Plot Registration Opens Feb. 2

Reserve a community garden plot at Woottons Mill Park and enjoy the upcoming growing season alongside friends and neighbors.

The city has 178 plots, measuring 20 by 25 feet, available from April 1-Nov. 13. The city provides access to water spigots. Gardeners bring their own fencing, weed barrier, hoses, tools and other supplies. Plots are \$55 each for city residents and \$80 for nonresidents.

Registration opens Tuesday, Feb. 2. For more information, contact Nanette Belice at 240-314-8660 or nbelice@rockvillemd.gov or visit www.rockvillemd.gov/gardenplots.

Winterize and Prevent Frozen Pipes

Extreme cold temperatures can lead to frozen pipes or meters, leaving homes without running water. To prevent frozen pipes:

- **Eliminate sources of cold air near pipes.** Close off crawl spaces, seal drafty windows and doors, and insulate walls and attics.
- **Use insulation or newspaper to wrap pipes that are exposed to cold air.**
- **Keep water moving through pipes.** Turn on the faucet farthest from your main valve to a very small, steady trickle.
- **Open doors to cupboards to let in air to warm pipes inside.**

If pipes freeze:

- **Shut off the water immediately at the main shut off valve.**
- **Melt water frozen inside pipes by using a hair dryer to warm air around the outside of the pipes.** Do not use a kerosene heater, blow torch or open flame.
- **Once pipes are thawed, slowly turn water back on.** Check all joints for leaks and other areas for cracks that may have resulted from the freeze.

Property owners are responsible for calling a plumber to repair frozen and broken pipes on their property and inside their homes. If you suspect your meter might be frozen and you pay

water bills to the City of Rockville, call 240-314-8567 to schedule a service call to fix it. If the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission provides water for your residence, call 301-206-4002.

Find tips for safely shutting off water and other utilities in your home at www.ready.gov/utility-shut-safety. The Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service provides tips for preventing frozen fire sprinkler pipes at <http://t.co/934gRI44MJ>.

To find if your home is served by the city and for additional tips to prevent frozen pipes, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/water. ❖

REDI SEEKS BUSINESSES TO APPRECIATE... Rockville Business Appreciation Week is March 7-11. During the week, ambassadors, including city leaders, city staff and Rockville Economic Development, Inc. (REDI) representatives, visit Rockville businesses to learn about the city's business climate and introduce business owners to resources available to help their businesses grow. Businesses located within the city limits that are interested in having REDI visit during the week should contact Michael Stiefvater, REDI business development manager, at Stiefvater@RockvilleREDI.org or 301-315-8096 or visit <http://rockvilleredi.org/redi-iso-companies-to-appreciate/>.



THINGS TO DO IN ROCKVILLE

City Invites Public to Knitting Workshops, 'Yarn Bombing' at Civic Center Park

Grab knitting needles and crocheting hooks and get ready to "yarn bomb" the city's picturesque Civic Center Park.

Yarn bombing, which is the practice of covering objects in public places with colorful knitted or crocheted designs, has gained popularity worldwide as an expression of creative art. The city's Arts Division welcomes community members to participate in the yarn bombing at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 27. Community members are invited to help wrap the trees even if they do not knit or crochet the creations. Drop off knitted creations at Glenview Mansion before 4:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 26 to have them hung the next day.

People who have a passion for art and who would like to have some fun are invited to free, friendly, relaxed knitting/crocheting workshops from 6-7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays through February in the living room at Glenview Mansion, at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.

For more information, contact Julie Farrell at jfarrell@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8682.

Community Centers Celebrate Valentine's Day

Tiny Tots Valentine's Celebration
Tuesday, Feb. 9; 10 a.m.-noon
Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls Grove Drive

Come in your cutest red to play, make crafts and sample light refreshments.

Ages 5 and under; \$2 per child; register for course #53394. Adults free with center membership or \$6 for Rockville residents/\$8 for nonresidents; register for course #53393.

Little Hearts Valentine's
Friday, Feb. 12, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave.

Children will make cards and a bag for their cards, read a book, decorate cookies and more. A small snack will be provided.

Ages 2-5. Adult participation required. Adults free with child's registration. \$7 for Rockville residents/\$10 for nonresidents. Register for course #54022.

Annual Heart To Heart Family Valentine's Dance
Friday, Feb. 12; 7-9 p.m.
Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway

Families and friends can spend time together making Valentine crafts and dancing as a disc jockey spins musical favorites. Refreshments will be sold by the Twinbrook Elementary School PTA. \$3 per person at the door.

Late Night Teen Valentine's Party
Friday, Feb. 12; 7-10 p.m.
Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls Grove Drive

Teens have the community center all to themselves to hang out with friends, enjoy basketball, dancing, video games and more. Refreshments will be sold.

Grades 6-9; \$7 for Rockville residents/\$10 for nonresidents when registering for course #53395; \$10 for residents/\$15 for nonresidents at the door.

Register online at rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov or in person at City Hall or city recreation facilities. For more information, call 240-314-8620.



Fitzgerald Theatre Welcomes Jazz Music, Dance and 'Robin Hood'

Enjoy jazz music by the Rockville Concert Band, progressive and traditional music and dance, and an operatic rendition of "Robin Hood" at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre in February.

Learn more about the following shows and buy tickets at www.rockvillemd.gov/theatretix or call the box office at 240-314-8690:



Rockville Concert Band Presents its Annual Jazz Concert
Feb. 7 at 3 p.m.

Guest ensemble Rockville Swing Band joins the city's band for their annual free jazz concert. This exciting mix of musical talent performs contemporary jazz, big band arrangements and traditional swing from the Golden Era.

No tickets required; \$5 suggested donation.

Duquesne University Tamburitians Present "New Horizons"
Feb. 14 at 2 p.m.

Reflecting the traditions and influences of more



than 100 nationalities and cultures, the Tamburitians return to the Fitzgerald Theatre, fusing progressive and traditional music and dance to create a visually stunning and electric performance.

Tickets: \$35-\$38.

"Robin Hood," Presented by Victorian Lyric Opera Company
Feb. 25-27 and March 4-5 at 8 p.m.; Feb. 28 and March 6 at 2 p.m.

In this comic opera, Robin, the Earl of Huntington, is robbed of his title by the shrewd Sheriff of Nottingham. With his band of merry men, including Friar Tuck, Allan-a-Dale and Little John, Robin takes from the rich to give to the poor until he is able to regain his title.

Tickets: \$28 adult; \$24 senior; \$20 student. \$12 pre-view performance on Feb. 25.

The F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre is located in Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive. ❖



"Bovine Abduction," by Michael Auger (above) and **"Shadygrove,"** by Christopher Mangan (left), on exhibit Feb. 7-26.

Glenview Gallery Exhibits Paintings, Illustrations in February

Student Art Show Submission Drop Off is Feb. 28

Glenview Mansion Art Gallery's next exhibition will open with a free reception from 1:30-3:30 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 7.

On exhibit through Feb. 26 will be artwork by oil painter Christopher Mangan and illustrator and graphic designer Michael Auger. Enjoy a free performance of live music featuring by singer-songwriter Elle Hope at 2 p.m. during the opening reception.

Also in February, the gallery invites students in grades K-12 who live in or attend school in Rockville to drop off one 2-D or 3-D art piece for display in the upcoming Student Art Show. Artwork can be dropped off at the mansion from 1:30-3:30 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 28. The exhibition will open on Sunday,

March 6, with works from students in grades 4-12 being judged for ribbons.

Glenview Mansion Art Gallery is located in Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive. It is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; and Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. It is closed on weekends and holidays, including Presidents Day (Feb. 15). No tickets or reservations are required for the opening reception and concert or for visiting the gallery during normal hours. Artwork is available for sale.

For more information on these shows, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/glenviewgallery or contact Julie Farrell at 240-314-8682 or jfarrell@rockvillemd.gov. ❖

Rockville 11 Examines Rockville's Role on the Underground Railroad

Black History Highlights Also Include an Interview with Councilmember Onley

The Underground Railroad freed over 100,000 slaves, spanned 14 states and included stops in Rockville.

Rockville 11 (channel 11 on county cable systems) salutes Black History Month with "Rockville: A Pathway to Freedom," which chronicles Rockville's role in taking people from bondage to new beginnings on the Underground Railroad.

"Rockville: A Pathway to Freedom" focuses on the stories of people like Josiah Henson, the model for the title character in Harriet Beecher Stowe's "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and Anthony Cohen, a fourth-generation descendant of a runaway

slave.

Other Rockville 11 Black History Month tributes include a one-on-one with Rockville's first black woman councilmember, Virginia D. Onley, who has a deep-rooted heritage. Onley's great-grandfather, who was a slave, was emancipated in Frederick County in 1860.

Rockville 11 will also rebroadcast the city's 44th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration.

For a programming schedule, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11, or find these and other videos celebrating Black History Month at www.rockvillemd.gov/youtube. ❖



Rockville 11 (channel 11 on county cable systems) will salute Black History Month in February with a look at Rockville's role on the Underground Railroad in "Rockville: A Pathway to Freedom" and an interview with Councilmember Virginia D. Onley (left).

R11 LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CITY ON ROCKVILLE 11 Watch www.rockvillemd.gov/youtube

FACILITIES ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS

- **Glenview Mansion Art Gallery** **GM** Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.
- **F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre** **FSF** Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.
- **Croydon Creek Nature Center** **CC** Rockville Civic Center Park, 852 Avery Road. Note: Registration is required, register at www.rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8770.
- **Rockville Senior Center** **SR** 1150 Carnation Drive. Call 240-314-8800.
- **Rockville City Hall** **CH** 111 Maryland Ave. Call 240-314-5000.



Rockville offers a variety of classes and programs each season. Find the Winter Rec. and Summer Camp guides at www.rockvillemd.gov/guide.

1 Maryland and The Road to Freedom In recognition of Black History Month, Joan Adams presents a program on Josiah Henson and Frederick Douglass, who were both born into slavery and became symbols of the quest for freedom. 10:15-11:15 a.m. **SR**

1,8,15,22,29 Mommy and Me Emphasizes play between caregiver and child using age-appropriate equipment in the gym. Center pass or daily membership required for caregivers. Age 4 and younger free. 10 a.m.-noon. Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway.

2 Garden Plot Registration Opens See article on page 5.

2,9,16,23 "Yarn Bomb" Knitting Workshops FREE 6-7:30 p.m. See article on page 6. **GM**

February Calendar

R = Residents • NR = Non Residents • MEM = Member • NM = Non Member

4 Board of Supervisors of Elections Post-Election Forum 7-9 p.m. See article on page 3. **CH**

6 Board of Supervisors of Elections Post-Election Forum. 10 a.m.-noon. See article on page 3. **CH**

7 Glenview Mansion Art Gallery Opening Reception and Sunday Afternoon Concert FREE 1:30-3:30 p.m. See article on page 6. **GM**

7 Rockville Concert Band's Annual Jazz Concert FREE 3 p.m. See article on page 6. **FSF**

9 Tiny Tots Valentine's Celebration 10 a.m.-noon. See article on page 6. Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls-grove Drive.

12 Little Hearts Valentine's 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. See article on page 6. Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave.

12 Annual Heart to Heart Family Valentine's Dance 7-9 p.m. See article on page 6. Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway.

12 Late Night Teen Valentine's Party 7-10 p.m. See article on page 6. Thomas Farm Community Center.

13 Lunar New Year Celebration FREE 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Performances 10 a.m.-noon. See article on page 1. **FSF**

13 South Pool Dedication Ceremony 9-9:30 a.m. See article on page 8. Rockville Swim and Fitness Center, 355 Martins Lane.

13,25 Nature Tots A naturalist helps children ages 2-5 explore nature through play, crafts, stories and hikes. Feb. 13 topic is "Owls." Feb. 25 topics is "Foxes." Adult participation required.

Preregistration recommended. 10-11:30 a.m. **CC**

13-15 Tax-Free Weekend for Energy Star Products See article on page 5.

14 Duquesne University Tamburitzans Present "New Horizons" 2-4:30 p.m. See article on page 6. **FSF**

15 Presidents Day City Hall and some city facilities are closed. Recycling and refuse collected as usual. See article on page 1.

20 "Building Bridges in a Diverse Society" Diversity Leadership Workshop FREE 9 a.m.-3 p.m. See article on page 4. Pump House, 401 South Horners Lane.

20-21 Dash and Splash See ad on this page. Rockville Swim and Fitness Center.

25-28 "Robin Hood" Presented by Victorian Lyric Opera Company. See article on page 6. **FSF**

27 Critters Up Close A new program taking a closer look at animals that live at Croydon Creek Nature Center. Each program features a different live creature and includes a live animal interpretation and craft. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Ages 2-6. 10-10:45 a.m. **CC**

27 "Yarn Bomb" the Civic Center FREE 1-3 p.m. See article on page 6. **FSF**

28 Bookworms: "Over and Under the Snow" Children age 2-5, accompanied by an adult, read a new story and get a copy of the book to take home. May include a craft or hike. 1:30-2:15 p.m. **CC**

28 Student Art Show Drop-off 1:30-3:30 p.m. See article on page 6. **GM**

Boards and Commissions

Meetings are held at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., unless otherwise noted. Please check the city website for the latest on cancellations, rescheduling and contact information at www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions.

3 Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee 7 p.m.

4 Environment Commission 7 p.m.

9 Human Services Advisory Commission 6:30 p.m.

10 Cultural Arts Commission 7 p.m.

10,24 Planning Commission 7 p.m. Televised on Rockville 11.

13 Board of Appeals 9 a.m. Televised on Rockville 11.

16 Rockville Seniors Inc. 1 p.m. Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive.

18 Senior Citizens Commission 1 p.m. Rockville Senior Center.

18 Historic District Commission 7:30 p.m. Televised on Rockville 11.

23 Traffic and Transportation Commission 7:30 p.m.

24 Sign Review Board 9 a.m.

24 Rockville Housing Enterprises Board of Commissioners 6:30 p.m. 621-A Southlawn Lane.

24 Human Rights Commission 7:30 p.m.

25 Recreation and Park Advisory Board 7 p.m. Rockville Swim and Fitness Center, 355 Martins Lane.

Vacancies

The city is seeking applicants for the following boards and commissions:

- Animal Matters Board (1 regular; 2 alternates)
- Board of Appeals (2)
- Board of Supervisors of Elections (1)
- Compensation Commission (2)
- Cultural Arts Commission (1)
- Environment Commission (1)
- Financial Advisory Board (1)
- Historic District Commission (2 regular; 1 alternate)
- Human Rights Commission (1)
- Human Services Advisory

- Commission (2)
 - Landlord Tenant Affairs Commission (1 regular; 1 alternate)
 - Planning Commission (1)
 - Recreation and Park Advisory Board (1)
 - Rockville Housing Enterprises (1)
 - Rockville Seniors, Inc. (1)
 - Senior Citizens Commission (3)
 - Traffic and Transportation Commission (3)
- For more, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions or call the City Clerk's Office at 240-314-8280.

Connect with us on Social Media.



facebook.com/CityofRockville



[@rockville411](https://twitter.com/rockville411)



www.rockvillemd.gov/youtube

Dash and Splash

at the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center

Saturday and Sunday Feb. 20-21

Register today!

Open to ages 15+
Cost: \$15 for seniors
\$20 for all others



Earn some bragging rights by competing in this aquathlon which consists of a 20 minute walk/run on a treadmill followed by a 20 minute swim. You will have 10 minutes to transition between stations. Winners in each age group will be determined by the total distance logged during the competition.



Rockville Swim and Fitness Center
355 Martins Lane
240-314-8750 • www.rockvillemd.gov/swimcenter

Register online via Rock Enroll at rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov or in person at City Hall or any Rockville recreation facility. Learn more on page 62 of the Winter Recreation Guide at www.rockvillemd.gov/guide.

FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE EVENT LISTING, VISIT WWW.ROCKVILLEMD.GOV

Calendario del presupuesto, Día de los Presidentes y Preparación de los hogares durante el invierno

El siguiente es un resumen de algunas de las historias más importantes en esta edición de "Rockville Reports":

El Alcalde y el Consejo establecen el calendario del presupuesto para el ejercicio fiscal de 2017

El Alcalde y el Consejo continuarán analizando su perspectiva del presupuesto de Rockville para el ejercicio fiscal de 2017, el lunes 8 de febrero. La sesión de trabajo se centrará en grandes cambios y la dirección de política para el ejercicio fiscal 2017, que comienza el 1 de julio, e incluirá una actualización en los ingresos del impuesto sobre la propiedad y el impuesto sobre la renta.

El lunes 14 de marzo el gestor municipal tiene programada una presentación de la propuesta del presupuesto. Para mayor información, incluyendo el calendario de presupuesto completo, visite www.rockvillemd.gov/budget o llame al Departamento de Finanzas al 240-314-8400.

La Alcaldía y algunas instalaciones municipales estarán cerradas durante el Día de los Presidentes

El Ayuntamiento, el Croydon Creek Nature Center, la Glenview Mansion, la taquilla del teatro F. Scott Fitzgerald y el Rockville Senior Center estarán cerrados en conmemoración del Día de los Presidentes el lunes 15 de febrero.

Los servicios de recolección de basura y reciclaje se realizarán como siempre el Día de los Presidentes. Los centros comunitarios Lincoln Park, Twinbrook y Thomas Farm y el centro de natación y gimnasio Rockville Swim and Fitness Center estarán abiertos en sus horarios regulares. Se suspenderán las tarifas de los parquímetros de propiedad de la ciudad. Para mayor información, llame al 240-314-5000 o visite www.rockvillemd.gov.

Evite que se congelen las tuberías con los consejos de preparación de su hogar para el invierno

Las temperaturas frías extremas pueden hacer que las tuberías o los

medidores se congelen, dejando así las casas sin agua corriente. Si sospecha que su medidor podría estar congelado y si paga las facturas de agua a la ciudad de Rockville, llame al 240-314-8567 para programar una visita de servicio y arreglarlo. Si la Comisión Sanitaria Suburbana de Washington presta el servicio de agua para su residencia, llame al 301-206-4002. Para saber si la ciudad presta el servicio de su casa y para encontrar consejos para prevenir que las tuberías se congelen o revienten, visite www.rockvillemd.gov/water.

Para mayor información en español, visite www.rockvillemd.gov y busqué la casilla de "Selecciona Idioma" en la esquina inferior derecha de la página. ❖

Save the Date for 2016 Special Events

Rockville hosts family-friendly special events throughout the year. Mark your calendar for the following free events in the months ahead:

- **Lunar New Year Celebration-Free!**
Saturday, Feb. 13; 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre in Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive

Celebrate of the “Year of the Monkey” on the Chinese Zodiac calendar with Asian performances, taste samples of Asian cuisine, exhibits, activities and information about community services. *Learn more in the article on page 1.*

- **Rockville Science Day-Free!**
Sunday, April 24; noon-5 p.m.; Montgomery College – Rockville, 51 Mannakee St.

The 27th annual Rockville Science Day offers a chance to experience science hands-on with 90 exhibits featuring the environment, nature, space, astronomy, reptiles, birds, chemistry, biology, robotics and rockets. For more information, or to sign up to exhibit, visit www.rockvillescience-center.org/rockville-science-day.

- **Public Works Equipment Show-Free!**
Thursday, May 19; 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Rockville Swim and Fitness Center, 355 Martins Lane

Kids – and kids at heart – can climb into the operator’s seat of some of the big trucks used by the city’s Department of Public Works. The show includes balloons, popcorn, coloring books and other giveaways.

- **Hometown Holidays Music Festival-Free!**
Saturday-Monday, May 28-30; Rockville Town Center

This popular music festival includes four stages of entertainment, the Taste of Rockville, amusements for kids and the Memorial Day ceremony and parade.

- **Independence Day Celebration-Free!**
Monday, July 4; 7-10 p.m.; Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park, 1800 Piccard Drive

Celebrate Independence Day with friends and neighbors, musical performances and a spectacular fireworks display.

- **Movies in the Parks-Free!**
Wednesdays, Aug. 3-24; Locations and movies to be announced in June.

Bring chairs, blankets, food and beverages and enjoy four different movies at four different neighborhood parks throughout the city.

- **Rockville Antique & Classic Car Show-Free!** **Saturday, Oct. 15; 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive**

More than 500 vehicles are on display at this city tradition, which offers a car-related flea market, car sales area, music and more.

Members of the Military Invited to Speak at Events

Rockville will mark Memorial Day on Monday, May 30 and Veterans Day on Friday, Nov. 11 with special ceremonies honoring veterans and active duty members of the nation’s armed forces.

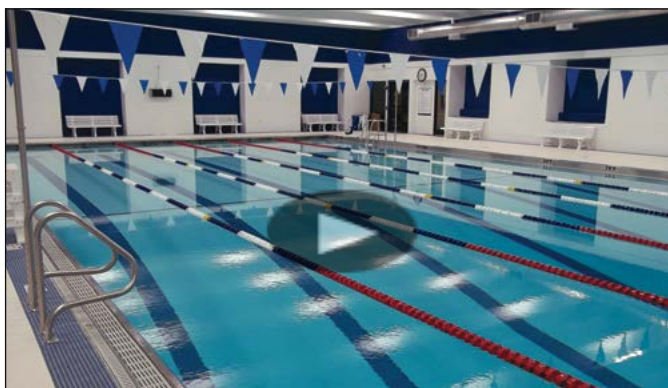
If you or someone you know is a member of the military or a veteran, the city invites you to apply to be a speaker at one of these special programs. Rockville and Montgomery County residents who have formerly served or currently serve in the United States military are eligible to participate.

Volunteer speakers must be comfortable speaking in public and will need to prepare a five-to seven-minute speech about their experiences in the armed forces, and about what it means to serve and honor those who have also served. Assistance with the speech is available.

Others interested in performing ceremonial duties are also invited to contact the city.

To express your interest in participating, or to learn more, contact Amanda Knox at 240-314-8604 or aknox@rockvillemd.gov.

Recreation Roundup



Community Invited to South Pool Dedication Ceremony

A major improvement project to renovate the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center’s indoor South Pool is complete and the public is invited to join the Mayor and Council at a dedication ceremony from 9-9:30 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 13, at the center, at 355 Martins Lane.

The project replaced the South Pool’s deck and its heating, ventilation and air condition system, and updated the aesthetics of the pool area. Learn more about the project and view photos from throughout the renovation at www.rockvillemd.gov/rsfc renovations.

The city thanks the center’s

patrons for their flexibility throughout the project, which was the first major renovation to the South Pool since it was built in 1968.

The pool reopened in early January and is home to a variety of activities, including lap swim, water exercise classes, swim team practices and learn-to-swim classes for youth and adults.

View the winter lap and recreation swim schedule and program offerings at www.rockvillemd.gov/swimcenter.

For more information, email swimcenter@rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8750. ✦

CITY’S SUMMER PROGRAMS

Camps, Playgrounds, Teens: We’ve Got Your Summer Covered

When the final school bell rings in June, be sure your kids are lined up for a summer packed with fun with Rockville’s summer camps, playgrounds and teen activities. Registration is open for these programs.

The city is expanding its popular Summer Blast camp with a new location at Twinbrook Community Recreation Center. Open to ages 5-11, the camp will continue to be held at College Gardens and Lakewood elementary schools, offering a full-day option from as early as 7:30 a.m. to as late as 6 p.m.

Summer Playgrounds offers supervised play for kids age 6-12 at several neighborhood sites from June 27-Aug. 4. The cost is \$199 for Rockville residents and \$275 for nonresidents. A Playground Sampler week runs from June 20-24.

Teens age 13-16 can take part in fun, interactive workshops, games and activities designed to prepare them to volunteer and/or work in a

camp setting or their first job at Future Leaders Camp. Participants have the opportunity to earn up to 30 Student Service Learning hours.

Other teen programs include skateboarding camp (for ages 6-14) and the Teens on the Go summer day-trip program. Teens on the Go details and registration information will be announced later this spring.

Rockville’s summer programs are open to all families in the Washington metropolitan area. Find program details in the Camp Guide at www.rockvillemd.gov/guide. Register online at rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov, in person at City Hall or city recreation facilities, or by fax to 240-314-8659.

Extended hours and flex time are available for some camps and playgrounds. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/camps and www.rockvillemd.gov/summerplaygrounds. ✦

Register Now for Youth and Adult Spring Sports

Registration is now open for the city’s youth and adult spring sports leagues, where you can improve your health and have fun while enjoying the benefits of team play.

The city’s top-notch fields and facilities are being prepped for a great spring and summer sports season, and coaches are readying their game plans.

Youth teams are organized by age and school district. This spring, youth sports include:

- **Co-Rec Soccer** (*boys and girls play together*) – Register by March 4. Practices start the week of March 18; games start April 17.
- **Co-Rec T-Ball** and **Coach Pitch** – T-ball is open to kindergarteners.

Coach Pitch is open to first- and second-graders. Register by March 4. Practices start the week of March 18; games start April 16.

- **Track and Field** – The program, open to ages 6-14, consists of weekly practices, five meets and two conference meets. Participants must live or attend school in Rockville. Register by March 11. Practices start the week of March 21; meets start April 20.

Adult sport leagues currently taking registrations are:

- **Co-Rec Regular Softball NEW!** – Open to men and women age 18 and older. Men bat in their regular stance. Register by March 21. Games be-

gin April 7.

- **Co-Rec Reverse Softball** – Open to men and women age 18 and older. Men bat in their opposite stance. Register by March 21. Games begin April 8.
- **Co-Rec Soccer 7s** – A form of seven-a-side soccer. Starting lineups must have a minimum of three women. Games are Thursdays from 7-10 p.m. at a Rockville field (location to be determined). Register by April 1. Games begin April 14.
- **Men’s Softball** – League play is scheduled as weeknight doubleheaders. The season includes 14 games plus playoffs. Teams can select from “D” or “C”/“D” divisions. Register by March

21. Games begin the week of April 11.

- **Co-Rec Volleyball** – Matches include a set of three games on Thursday evenings in the gymnasium of Broome Junior High School, 751 Twinbrook Parkway. Register by April 1. Games begin on April 14.
- **Men’s Basketball** – Games are played on Monday evenings at Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway. Register by March 24. Games begin April 11. All practice and game start dates are weather-permitting. Learn more and register at www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/sports, or call 240-314-8620. ✦



Get Into It

Mayor
BRIDGET DONNELL NEWTON
Councilmembers
BERYL L. FEINBERG
VIRGINIA D. ONLEY
JULIE PALAKOVICH CARR
MARK PIERZCHALA

City Manager: Barbara B. Matthews
Deputy City Manager: Jennifer Kimball
Director of Communication: Marylou Berg
Public Information Specialists: Noelle Barton, Sean Sedam
Graphics & Printing Div.: Sylvia England, Eric Ferrell, Nikita Jones, Leon Porter, Betsy Robbins, Lori Russler

Rockville Reports is the official publication of the Mayor and Council, published at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850-2364. It is delivered to all residents of Rockville. Phone 240-314-8105. Any individuals with disabilities who would like to receive the information in this publication in another form may contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator at 240-314-8100; TTY 240-314-8137.